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SUBJECT: CHARGE DELIVERS UNSC REFORM DEMARCHE: GHANA

REF: STATE 138946

¶1. On July 29, Charge delivered reftel demarche on UNSC reform to Ghanaian Deputy Foreign Minister Kwesi Osei-Adjei. (Note: due to the urgency of this issue, Charge met with the Deputy Foreign Minister rather than the Foreign Minister, who was not available until August 1. In the past, the Deputy Foreign Minister has been a reliable interlocutor on this and other issues, who has the ear of the minister. End note.) Charge stressed that we cannot support the G-4 proposal, and that without a broad consensus, UNSC reform will not be successful. He emphasized the USG's strong position on this issue.

¶2. The Deputy Minister responded that Ghana will make its decisions on UNSC expansion in concert with the African Union. The AU wants to expand the Security Council to include two African states to be selected by the AU. Ghana's Foreign Minister is on the AU committee dealing with UNSC expansion and Ghana is looking at all options. The GOG is awaiting the committee's report to see if it recommends an AU mini-summit before September.

¶3. When asked whether Ghana would support postponing the discussion of UNSC expansion rather than pushing for an immediate vote, Osei-Adjei said he was not sure what the AU committee will decide on this issue. He add that, personally, he thought it "will be sad" if the UNSC expansion issue overshadows other important UN reforms which are being considered.

LANIER